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9-1y5

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41] islands prumpily attended to. [Lyb

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HAWAIIAN



GAZETTE.

VOL. V---NO. 46.3

HONOLULU, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1869.

\$\$6.00 PER YEAR.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

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HUNT'S HANDLED AXES.

The World is Growing Better.

A Thanksgiving Sermon delivered in Fort Street Church, Honolulu, Nov. 18th, 1869, by Rev. R. B. SNOWDEN.

Print 115:19, 20. "Open to me the gates of right-consuess; I will go into them and I will prefee the bord. This gate of the Lord into which the right-convahall enter." The world is growing better. I thank

God for this, and that you all may fully share the grateful feeling, I mean, in the half-bour you lend me on this day of general praise, to prove and illustrate the proposition. I know that many hold and express a con-

trary opinion. And it is not at all strange We will attend to the sale of Segar and all kinds lity, skepticism, and irreligion of the times, that one quite readily runs to the conclusion made on that the world is becoming worse and worse, or, as a friend of mine once expressed it: "The race is devil-ridden and hell-bent." If we look only in one direction, we see frightful depths of suffering and want in our large cities, fierce animal excitements, gross tastes, unnatural vices and crimes, the casting off of sacred restraints, treason against law and order, adulteries and shapeful divorces, forgeries and robbery, murder, drunkenness, blasphemy, and vileness unspeakable. We are startled by shocking iniquities, which uncover depths of depravity far lower than we have thought could possibly be reached. The very fountains of life seem to be polsoned; whole races dying out; civilization running to fæticide, suicide, impurity, physical and moral decay. Standing aghast at such awful horrors, we say, Surely, the times have brought as to the very carnival of " 1-1yh crime. Nothing in the world was ever so

bad as this. But we are mistaken. This dreadful wickedness, repulsive as it seems, is loveliness compared with what prevailed in the ancient world. The classic writers of Greece and Rome have framed for us windows through which we may look in and see the festering rottenness of those learned, civilized nations. The deciphered hieroglyphs of Assyria and Egypt tell the same tale of shame. God buried Herculaneum and Pompeii for sixteen centuries in a deep grave of lava, and then let men come and uncover those charnelhouses, that they might learn how entirely right was that terrible vengeance of His which swept away all the glory, the arts, luxury, and learning of the grandest Empire the world ever saw, with His great tidal

wave of Gothic barbarism. Then, things were done every day without s protest which the world would not now suffer to be done at all. Then, the pleasures of the populace were fearfully cruel and bloody. Remembering that, in our day, we have not confined ourselves to protecting human beings from wrong, but have laws and societies in all parts of Christendom to prevent ernelty even to animals-bearing this fact in mind, conceive yourself, on a pleasant afternoon, in old Imperial Rome, hurrying along with the throng to the Coliscum, where gather, in gallery upon gallery, the nobility and populace of the great city-the Emperor and princes, the senators, knights, tradesmen and rabble-a vast assemblage eighty thousand in number. Soon the trained gladiators come out into the arcua far below you, and contend, not in a sham encounter, but in savage carnest, for the fearful stake imposed upon them is that of life or death, the same red blood as yours. He has a wife and family, perhaps, in some far-off town. He is guilty of no crime. Shall he die? of thy people, sitting on a throne; say, at once, y laughing crowds, for his antagonist waits for your commands. - Down go the thumbs, and he is dispatched with a thrust of his fellow-gladiator's sword, and the hungry masses, their appetite for blood quick-

things be done now? Do you hear those roarings? They come from beasts, -tigers wild from the jungles of Asia; lions that lately roamed the deserts of Numidia. They have had no food for days. Here comes their prey, - this old man, a bling limbs give point to many a joke and jibe among the careless multitude, and, Ah! this daughter, so young and lovely, clinging to the old man's hand. Will she not excite compassion in those hearts of stone? It may possibly be so; but no! The iron barriers are taken away; the flerce beasts, with a single bound, are in the arena, and the great crowds are eager for the issue-tier above tier, rising in their scats, and pressing forward to see. And while helpless shricks, mangled limbs and death-agonies make a picture that the mob study with relish, the THE UNDERSIGNED having been sun shines down aslant through the roofless temple, like the eye of God searching the depths of sin. Would the world now stand

such scenes as those? I thank God for the times we live in, not as an absolute good-far from it-but as better than any period of the past, and full of promise

1. The present is an era of wide views. There has been a disenthrallment of the mind, along with the march of freedom in other 43-1f Agent Brit. For. Mar. Int. Ob. (Limited) quarters. Old notions, not founded in reason and right, are exploded; institutions which have served their day, but are worn out and useless, however much the ages have ballow-CASH CAPITAL, \$8,000,000 in GOLD. ed them, are swept away out of sight, as so much rubbish. The signs are favorable for liberty throughout the world. The old forms agents of the above Company for the Hawaiian la, are prepared to insure against Fire on Brick, and wooden Buildings, and on Merchandise, smoot favorable terms. For particulars, apply be retained, but the power is getting into the bands of the people, which is like the settlement of a suit in chancery, in a way they are reported to be seldom settled -by the actual distribution of the property among the heirs to whom it belongs. The great case among the nations of Jarndice vs. Jarndice. is coming to an issue, and in a satisfactory manner, too. The more radical a reform is, now-a-days, the more likely it is to succeed. The proposal to adopt woman suffrage is an instance. There is hardly a question but that it will come. It will be an experiment quite likely a great mistake in itself; but the agitation now going on is a good thing, and means a great deal. It means a common

reform in dress, which is greatly uceded, and is never left unfriended in his loneliness Increased opportunities of helpfulness for the The spirit of Howard, or rather that which self-dependent women. The agitation of this Howard had,—the spirit of Jesus,—lives in a question means at least as much as this. multituee of kind hearts, consecrated to the What a pleasant sign of independence and noble deeds of charity—gentle women who mental elevation is given us in the adoption go as angels with relieving hands into the of the eight-hour system, whatever may be presence of suffering, poverty, and death; thought of the economy of it. Mechanics strong men, who, amidst the affinence which are not serfs any longer, but men of intelli- God has poured in golden showers upon gence and influence. The drudges must the wants of others. Stoicism is a virtue no now be drawn from the half-civilized and longer. New springs of sympathy and tender heathen myriads of Asia and Africa, while

love have started in more hearts than can be our artizans are to have time for culture. In religion, liberal views prevail; supertold, making green the meadows of life, stitions have given way; the churches are bringing the bloom of floral beauty where more free; denominational wars are pretty once the desert sands of sorrow lay het and well over. The word heretic will soon be glaring, obsolete, and Christian mean more than formalist. We are still narrow, I think, in some of our church ideas. Our churches are too restricted; the interval between them and the masses seems to be widening every year. It used to be that all were in some a Sunday affair, a mummery of prayers and sort of ecclesiastical connection, and therefore received some oversight and care from pastors and others; but now, the churches are too much the fashionable resorts of a select few, while the multitudes are as sheep will come when corporations will have sonls.

without a shepherd. The Lord help them But this evil is somewhat remedied by the increased attention paid to the religious instruction of children. We are getting tired of presenting the Gospel to the hardened sinners only. We are no longer willing to be put off with the left-ends of bumanity, very few of whom are ever converted. It shows the good sense of the times that ministers are preaching a good deal to children, who can give a whole life to the Lord, and who are susceptible to impressions, their bearts not having been crusted over by long habits of unbelief, or the beauty and very life of their souls burnt out by the fires of vice. We can offer to our Master no gifts more precious than bouquets of the sweet young flowers of human nature-buds o promise, tender blossoms, still fresh with the dews of morning.

Wide views are taken in all branches of

knowledge. No part of the past has added so largely to the domain conquered by the forces of the human mind. The average of intelligence is greater than heretofore; education is more widely diffused, and embrace matters of more practical worth. At last, people have come to stody things, not words and abstractions, and to make their schooldays steps to trade, the farm, the workshop, and the home. We are living in a day, too, of great intellectual brilliancy. Bright lights of genius shine in the firmament of literature. We have, indeed, no Shakspeare-n such universal mind may again be expected. But he had around him no friends and companious in the walks of learning to be compared with the goodly array of poets, historians, editors, generals, admirals, divines, and jurists, who take us by the hand and lead us into the beautiful groves of thought, or upward to the heights of manly enterprise. Science, entering into the infinities of creation, has greatly enlarged the range of thought,-opening highways into the won derful and vast, where, with hushed breath, awed and adoring, we seem to stand upon the threshold of the palace-home of God. Helped on by inventive genius, science has smoothed the rough ways of life, and put to our service so many hidden forces of nature One falls, faint and wounded; shall be die? as to make it a common experience with us He is a brother-man; bis heart throbs with | not to be surprised at the most marvelous

It is indeed true that our literary people and men of science have frightened us some-Give answer quick, O thou misnamed Father | what by their attacks upon the Bible and Christianity. But it is really not so bad an assault as that which was made by the luftdels of the last century. The Bible is not scorned as a forgery now-these men know at as a tissue of superstition and weakness. ened, clamor for another wictim ! Could such Its grandeur, its perfect morality, its divinity, even, are recognized, and Jesus is the loveliest character in history, whose acknowledged power over the hearts of men is thought worth studying into by Strauss, Resome of these thinkers are bent on evolving hated Christian, whose gray hairs and trem- all things from a fire mist, without the crestive edict of a Supreme Father, yet they only retire into a fog which the multitude are perfectly willing they should stay in, and are not at all disposed to enter with them. the masses hear little about these speculations, and care less for them, believing full well that if man originated from the beboon. then the beboon must have started with the seeds of the human soul in him,-a greater Genesis, and only uselessly moving back the needed act of God.

2. The present is an age when moral ideas hold the scepter in society. It is not so materialistic an era as some would have it. There is a public sentiment before which wickedness is constrained to bide its head. An enlightened public conscience has proved itself a mighty force in society. It has abolished floggieg on the high sens; it has removed the decanter from the side-board of our houses, where it used to stand-s constant temptation; it has driven into disgrace Intemperance itself, that used to be thought fellow's character. The moral sentiment of lition in the British West Indies, and set free the coborts of the Republic, as by the Christian conscience of the people who brought on education for the sexes; a less frivolous and impulses to his philanthropic heart. And energetic races which have already conquered unworthy life for the sisters of the race; a | the well-treated prisoner of the present day and civilized so large a part of the earth.

them, are soft of heart for the distresses and

Chistian ideas have penetrated into business, into governments, into the relations of states and nationalities, into outward affairs, generally, from which they were formerly excluded. Religion is no longer set aside as ceremoules, but is brought down to our everyday life. It has, indeed, got but little, as yet, into corporations; but corporations, proverbially, have no souls, and therefore

not much capacity for religion. The day

and then religion will control them. It is sometimes said that people will not stand much theology now-a-days. Much of what used to be dignified with the name of theology is happily gone-that dry scholasticism which had nothing in common with the Bible but Bible words. We need shed no tears that such a jargon-the old metaphysics of the pulpit-has become a dead language; it never had life. There is better ground for lamenting that the people seem to be less hungry for the plain bread of a simple Gospel. Like very children, they are often most pleased when fed with unwholesome confectionery rather than the substantial food of saving truth. Perhaps it was always so, and the only trouble now is, that they get what they cry for more than formerly. Discipline is relaxed, resulting in a growing class of spiritual dyspeptics, unable to digest a single solid doctrine. But this is a

disease which will work its own cure. 3. That the world is becoming better is seen in the concentrated and united action of the present day. The repellent forces in society are weakened. Christianity, teaching charity, brotherhood, sympathy, a common Father, is uniting all the healthy elements of the world into a resistless host, bearing on their banners, like the regiments of Napoleon, the sure presage of glorious victory. The nations which have long held apart are now joining hands with the rest of us. The distant East and the Christian West are meeting, not in the shock of deadly strife, but in the friendly blending of their several streams of wealth and civilization. Great monopolies are a feature of the pres ent day-an evil in themselves, but a natural result of this tendency to concentration. They mean something, and for good, ulti-mately, we have reason to believe. There is coming a wonderful sanctification of wealth. Already, the first drops of the needed shower have refreshed the dry selfishness of life. When Christ has the hearts of those who have the gold, then the hungry shall not go unfed, nor the lenorant untaught.

The tendency to united action is seen in the increase of lay work in our churches. The time was-and not long ago, cither,when even assistance in prayer-meetings from those not in the clerical profession, or in official station, was scowled upon as improper and intrusive. In Frank in, Conn., old Dr. Nott, brother of President Nott, of Union College, though a thoroughly good man, and settled over an intelligent people, used to resent it as an affront if any one be sides himself and the deacons proposed to too much for that; Christianity is not scoffed take any part but that of listeners in the weekly meetings of the congregation. He would pray and talk, call on the deacons to pray and talk, and then shut the gates down and dismiss the assembly, so that when the fire burned in the hearts of his flock. they had to use craft, and remain until the nan, Shenckel, and the rest. Granted that Doctor had taken his hat and cane, and then have a prayer meeting among themselves.

4. Ours is an age of great things. Tele-

graphs across all lands, and under all seas; long steamship lines; railways spanning continents; newspapers, sending out hundreds of thousands of copies; immense armaments Granted that they are busy emblazoning their in war; iron-clads; monster guns; giant heraldic shield with the figure of the pre- powder; wonderful bridges; telescopes, penhistoric ape-their asserted ancestor, -yet etrating to infinity; a thousand such things show us on how large a scale man's life is now ranged. And these are all things of use, not great play-things, like the hanging gardens of Babylon, the Sphinx of the Nile, or the Colossus of Rhodes. The beauty of wonder than the absolute creation taught in utility has as much grace as any other, and more worth. The world is stronger; the fable of Briarens, with his hundred arms, has become a sober fact; only the myth is too small to meet the reality. It is a day of great and sudden changes; violent explosions in society shake the world to its centre, but when the confusion has calmed, and the air is clear again, it is found that only rubbish and misery have been blown off, and things have settled upon a better foundation than ever. It is but lately that reports came to us of a monk in coarse robe, and with sandaled feet, moving voluptuous Paris to tears and penitence by his tender, impressive no more than the pecessary spice in a fine sermons. And now, on the eve of an ecumenical council, his bold protests against society killed the slave-trade; procured abo- prevailing corruptions in the Roman Church, excite us to think that this eloquent Father the serfs of Russia. American slavery went Hyncinthe who under his anstere garb hides down before it,-swept off not so much by a person full of magnetic power and a heart warm with love for humanity, may soon stand forth a second Luther.

the conflict, and when it came, would not 5. We are living in an age of great expeccompromise, though the sacrifice was great. tations. Before Christ came the world was Moral ideas rule widely in this our day. The astir with the idea that an illustrious person world once rang with the praises of Howard, was soon to appear. So now, more than who went into the prisons, and reformed ever in times past, the mind of the world is their abuses and cruelties. We breathe a awake to the belief that a great and wonpurer atmosphere. Howard would find now wonderful ern is soon to be ushered in. We no dungeous, dark and loathsome; no crim- anticipate the occupation and improvement inals, chalced in pepetual midnight, among of continents like Africa and South America, the unburied bodies of their dead fellows; of parts of Asia and of fair isles cradled on he would find in our well-regulated peniten- the bosom of this vast sea. Lands of wontiaries and asylume no such scenes of horror derful fertility, with healthful climates, and is sickened his mind, while they added new untold resources, await the entrance of those

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We are expecting fresh discoveries in the domain of all the sciences, and inventions more important than any which have already come forward to do the drudgery of our work. We are looking for a coming man,-which means an advance of humanity to a far higher platform of life, a style of character symmetrical and strong, calling out into full beauty and perfection the saered endowments of the soul. Christ, the lovely and divine, the friend whose death has given new life to the race, has promised to appear once more. We believe He will come in the glory of His person at the latter day, but we are now looking for his coming in another sense, in the uplifting of all hearts and lives into likeness to Him, as he was in His earthly life. These expectations, my friends, shall not

suffer disappointment. Steadily this improvement in moral life goes on. More and more the waifs that are adrift on lonely and troubled waters, are gathered and cared for, every year sees new retreats for the insane and the intemperate, inventive ingenuity is busy planning provisions for the comfort of the suffering, homes for the poor, means of co-operation and help for all. In our large cities, where you must go deep down into the darkness to find the lowest stratum of want and wretcheduess, the number continually increases of those who find it a joy beyond all other to penetrate the gloom and bring up into daylight and hope these children of sin. The horrors of such utter ruin are no less fearful than formerly, but they are not shunned as once. Dens of crime are turned into sanctuaries for prayer; vile wantons are collected into midnight meetings, where kindly attentions, and tender words of Christian love, start the long dried fountains of their penitent tears. Religion now takes on not the ascetic piety of the recluse, but a practical carnestness that speaks of hearts all aflame with a fire fallen from above, like that which kindled the sacrifices of ancient saints. This growing usefulness gives ground for our expectations, betokening the dawning radiance of a better day. A new humanity is rising to view. Homes will be imporer, because hearts will be purer. Charity and sympathy, goodness in varied forms will flow in streams all over the wide plains of life, freighted, like the rivers of California, with gold-the best wealth of hearts that draw their supplies from the perennial fountains of God's grace.

The first Napoleon, drawing up his troops for battle on the plains of Egypt, within sight of the Pyramids, pointed to those monuments of antiquity, and said: "From the top- of those Pyramids forty centuries behold you." These suggestive words gave to the romantic minds of his Frenchmen an impulse to upusual valor. We are inspired to action by the thought, not that so many dead centuries lie behind us, which we know to be ages of wickedness, but rather that so many inviting prospects, opening into grander scenes and better days, beckon us to push on in the line of duty, and with closed ranks to hasten, by what we do, the coming glory. It is our privilege, to-day, to thank our Heavenly Father, not for personal benefits only, so many, so rich in blessing, but for the age, its civilization and religion, and for the fuller bounty already on the way to us. Let us not lose the enthusiasm of hope, but rather enlarge our expectations, for the hand of Him who is saving the world benefactions. Go up with gladuess, on this festive day, into the watch-tower of faith, for the white winged fleet of a world's full salvation is even now in the offing, loaded down with all the treasures, for which the suffering millions of our globe have pined so

ANIMAL SAGACITY AT THE NORTH POLE .-

According to the Esquimaux, the seal con-structs its habitation beneath the surface of the ice in such a munner that it can enter it from the water below; here the young scal from the water octor, and when the returning heat of summer has destroyed its igloo, or dwelling, the young seal is ald enough to take care of itself; but this mode of louging its young be-ueath the ice is well known to the bear, who with its keen seent soon detects the where-abouts of the seal's nursery, and in order to gain an entrance the bear, retiring a short dis-tance, makes a spring and comes down with tance, makes a spring and comes down with all his weight on the roof of the igloo, crushes it in, and immediately seizes the young seal with its paw. Here it might be supposed the hungry bear at once devours its pary; but no, it is far to wary to do so, it knows full well that where a babe is there must of necessity be a mother, and that she will be in search of he a mother, and that she will be in search of her darling; therefore the bear scrapes away the mow from the seal hole, and holding the young seal by the flipper, allows it to flounder about, and when the mother approaches, the hear slyly draws the young seal toward it an-till the old one is within reach, when he series her with the other paw, and thus captures both. The mode in which the bear captures the seal on the ice is very similar to that followed by the Esquimanx. When at a distance from the seal, the hear throws itself down and stealthily crawls or hitches along toward the seal, and if the seal looks up it lies perfectly will and makes, at the same time anning which seal, and if the seal looks up it lies perfectly still and makes, at the same time, anoise which lulis the seal; the bear repeats the operation until it approaches its victim so near that escape is impossible, when it falls a prey to Brain's appetate. Another mode of obtaining field by the bear is to watch from a cliff the movements of the walrus, who are fond of sunning themselves on the rocks, and when one of these has taken up a convenient position for the bear's purpose, the latter lifts a large piece of rock, and, with actonishing accuracy, throws it down on the animal's head. If the nairus is only stimmed, the hear rushes down, and with the rock hammers its victim on the head until it is dead. When attempting to exprire a seal in water, the hear sinks its hody beneath the surface of the sea, leaving only the head above water, which resembles a piece of floating ice; when the seal raises its head above the surface. Brain quietly sinks, and swimming under the seal; seizes it.—Illustrated Tracels.

Disappranance of Tau Conona. The disappearance of the star Tau Corona has excited considerable discussion on the point whether this heavenly body has been consumed by fire, or, by increasing its distance from the earth, has only vanished from the sight of terrestrical observors. On the latter point it is stated that recent calculations show that the sun and the star Sirius are receding from each other at the rate of 29.4 miles per second, and it is asserted that this famous star will gradually become dimmer and dimmer, and will eventually entirely vanish from human sight, onless the power in the lenses of telecopes in time will have been segreatly increased that astronomers will be able to investigate more minutely into the now distant and invisible stellar systems,